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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, August 11, 1983 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended August 6 totaled an estimated 16.2 billion ton-miles, 6.3 percent above the corresponding period a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 31 weeks of 1983 was an estimated 480.6 billion ton-miles, 1.6 percent below the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended August 6 totaled 364,200 cars, 3.5 percent over 1982, but 4.4 percent lower than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 5.5 percent in the South, and 4.5 percent in the West but down 0.1 percent in the East.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1982, 12 of the 21 commodity groups were up, including nonmetallic minerals, 34.5 percent; lumber and wood products, 23.9 percent; crushed stone, gravel and sand, 18.3 percent; and motor vehicles and equipment, 22.9 percent. Grain loadings increased 7.6 percent. Fifteen of the 21 groups were down from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended July 30 totaled 47,394 cars, up 24.5 percent from the corresponding week of 1982, and 81,287 trailers and/or containers, 22.2 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 30 weeks of the year was 1,298,922 cars, 20.3 percent higher than last year, and 2,234,226 trailers and/or containers, up 16.7 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 8/6/83:

| | Loadings in Week ended August 6, 1983 | | Change from Corresponding Week 1982 | | | Change from Preceding Week | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cars | | Cars | Percent | | Cars | Percent |
| Grain | 28,210 | I | 1,982 | 7.6 | I | 114 | 0.4 |
| Other farm products | 3,609 | I | 490 | 15.7 | D | 605 | 14.4 |
| Metallic ores | 15,654 | I | 1,053 | 7.2 | D | 4,657 | 22.9 |
| Coal | 103,139 | D | 7,575 | 6.8 | D | 4,494 | 4.2 |
| Crushed stone, gravel and sand | 11,370 | I | 1,760 | 18.3 | I | 100 | 0.9 |
| Nonmetallic minerals | 12,200 | I | 3,129 | 34.5 | I | 38 | 0.3 |
| Grain mill products | 11,427 | D | 248 | 2.1 | I | 112 | 1.0 |
| Food and kindred products | 11,453 | D | 1,077 | 8.6 | D | 177 | 1.5 |
| Primary forest products | 14,214 | D | 1,064 | 7.0 | D | 475 | 3.2 |
| Lumber and wood products except furniture | 7,103 | I | 1,371 | 23.9 | D | 981 | 12.1 |
| Pulp, paper and allied products | 15,119 | D | 155 | 1.0 | D | 146 | 1.0 |
| Chemicals and allied products | 22,653 | I | 2,287 | 11.2 | D | 99 | 0.4 |
| Petroleum products | 4,742 | D | 302 | 6.0 | I | 108 | 2.3 |
| Stone, clay and glass products | 10,910 | I | 501 | 4.8 | D | 588 | 5.1 |
| Coke | 5,195 | I | 924 | 21.6 | D | 18 | 0.3 |
| Metals and products | 6,974 | D | 799 | 10.3 | D | 1,363 | 16.3 |
| Motor vehicles and equipment | 14,027 | I | 2,613 | 22.9 | D | 928 | 6.2 |
| Waste and scrap materials | 7,611 | I | 720 | 10.4 | D | 384 | 4.8 |
| Forwarder and shipper association traffic | 7,643 | D | 643 | 7.8 | D | 489 | 6.0 |
| All other carloads | 50,674 | I | 8,070 | 18.9 | D | 2,022 | 3.8 |
| LCL traffic | 273 | D | 807 | 74.7 | I | 10 | 3.8 |
| Total Cars Loaded | 364,200 | I | 12,230 | 3.5 | D | 16,944 | 4.4 |
| Corresponding week of 1982 | 351,970 | | | | | | |

| | 1983 | 1982 | % Change |
|---|---|---|---|
| Total Cars Loaded (31 weeks) | 10,912,866 | 11,457,325 | D 4.8 |
| Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions): | | | |
| 30 weeks ended July 30 | 464.4 | 473.0 | D 1.8 |
| Week ended August 6 | 16.2 | 15.2 | I 6.3 |
| 31 weeks cumulative | 480.6 | 488.3 | D 1.6 |

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